

A NOTE ON "ERITRICHUM SCHRAD. 1819" AND  
ERITRICHIMUM SCHRAD. EX GAUDIN 1828 (BORAGINACEAE)

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ABSTRACT

*Eritrichum* Schrad. was not validly published. *Eritrichium* Schrad. ex Gaudin is valid and the correct name for the genus.

KEY WORDS: *Eritrichum*, Boraginaceae

RESUMEN

*Eritrichum* Schrad. no se publicó válidamente. *Eritrichium* Schrad. ex Gaudin es el nombre válido y correcto para el género.

During a routine analysis of a draft treatment for the *Flora of North America*, Volume 15, we encountered a nomenclatural problem with a genus name and its type species.

While assembling material for an examination of the North American *Eritrichium*, we found that both "*Eritrichum* Schrad. (1819: 186)" and *Eritrichium* Schrad. ex Gaudin (1828: 4, 57) have been used. Schrader's genus name, if it were to be validly published, would have priority over Gaudin's *Eritrichium*.

A sampling of monographs, revisions, and floras shows an inconsistency in spelling and citations. Wight (1902: 407), Lechner-Pock (1955–1956: 100), and Weber (1990: 113) considered Schrader's 1819 publication valid and used "*Eritrichum*". DeCandolle (1846:122), Popov (1953: 482), Cronquist (1959: 202), Ohwi (1965: 757), Hultén (1968: 773), Scoggan (1979: 1284), Ovchinnikova (2009: 142) and Zhu & al. (1995: 378, following IPNI, see below) accepted Schrader as the author of the genus but spelled the genus name *Eritrichium*, which is a preference they can exercise in cases of orthographic variations. Abrams (1951: 557) and Johnston (1924: 51), while using the spelling *Eritrichium*, gave the citation as Schrader in Gaudin. Finally, Chater (1972: 117), Cronquist (1984: 222), and Welsh & al. (2003: 61) used *Eritrichium* Schrader ex Gaudin.

The International Plant Name Index (IPNI 2012a) has the genus name and its bibliography as: "*Eritrichium* Schrad. in Comm. Gotting. iv. (1820) 186, in obs. (*Eritrichum*). Asperifol. 16." Index Nominum Genericorum (Plantarum) (ING 2012) listed "*Eritrichium* Schrader ex Gaudin, Fl. Helv. 2: 4, 57. 1828." Additionally, the Names in Current Use (NCU-3e; 2012) has essentially the same as ING.

Schrader (1819: 186) distinguished many taxa found in the Boraginaceae based on the form of the carphophore (= fruiting receptacle): Type "1. *Immutata* s. *plana* [s. = seu = or], omnium frequentissima, cum discus per fructu maturescente formam non mutat, ut in *Symphyto* p), Boragine, Echio etc.; 2. *convexa*, cum discus per maturitatem fructus magis vel minus elevatur, ut in *Myosoti*, in plurimis *Anchusae* speciebus q) et varus aliis; 3. *cónica* l. [l. = licet = that is] *hemisphaerico-conica*, cuius siimilis cum praecedente ortus: *Eritrichum* (*Myosotis nana*), *Pulmonaria virginica* et affines species, distinctum genus constituents."

The question is whether the Type 3 character "*conica* l. *hemisphaerico-conica*" applies to *Eritrichum* alone or to two genera: *Eritrichum* (*Myosotis nana*) and an unnamed genus (*Pulmonaria virginica* and allied species). If the key character does indeed apply to *Eritrichum* alone, then the genus name was validly published by Schrader. On the other hand, if the key character applies to both *Eritrichum* and an unnamed genus, then the genus name is not valid.

We have concluded that the key character does apply to both *Eritrichum* and an unnamed genus, and the name was not validly published by Schrader. Therefore, Gaudin's (1828) validation of the name *Eritrichium* is accepted.



*Eritrichium* is typified by *E. nanum*, which was based on *Myosotis nana* L. The validity of *M. nana* (published in Amann, Fl. Alp. 13. 1756) has been questioned. The protologue is: *Myosotis nana* Bocc. T. 107 (1697).

The Linnean Typification Project (2012) does not list this name on its website. IPNI (2012b) treated *M. nana* L. as invalid and provided a remark: "The name doesn't appear in any of Linnaeus's later works and it is thought to be an abbreviated reference to Boccone's phrase name (Museo Piante Rare Sicil. t. 107. 1697) not the publication of a new binomial (C. Jarvis, pers. comm.)."

After a discussion with IPNI's editorial staff at Kew, the name *Myosotis nana* is deemed valid and the above remark is revised to: "The name is thought by some to be an abbreviated reference to Boccone's phrase name (Museo Piante Rare Sicil. t. 107. 1697) rather than publication of a new binomial (C. Jarvis, pers. comm.)" (IPNI, 2012c).

Thus the correct citation of the generic name is as follows:

*Eritrichium* Schrad. ex Gaudin, Fl. Helv. 2:4, 57. June 1828. TYPE SPECIES: *E. nana* (L.) Gaudin (*Myosotis nana* L. [correct authority is Linnaeus, not Amman or Villars or Allioni])

*Eritrichum* Schrad., Comment. Soc. Regiae Sci. Gott. 4:186. Dec 1819, nom.nud.

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